

APPENDIX

Bankhead Cotton Act of 1934 (48 Stat. 598, Amended 48 Stat. 1184, 49 Stat. 776, Repealed 49 Stat. 1106)

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Declaration of Policy

That in order to relieve the present acute economic emergency in that part of the agricultural industry devoted to cotton production and marketing by diminishing the disparity between prices paid to cotton producers and persons engaged in cotton marketing and prices of other commodities and by restoring purchasing power to such producers and persons so that the restoration of the normal exchange in interstate and foreign commerce of all commodities may be fostered, and to raise revenue to enable the payment of additional benefits to cotton producers under the Agricultural Adjustment Act—

It is hereby declared to be the policy of Congress to promote the orderly marketing of cotton in interstate and foreign commerce; to enable producers of such commodity to stabilize their markets against undue and excessive fluctuations, and to preserve advantageous markets for such commodity, and to prevent unfair competition and practices in putting cotton into the channels of interstate and foreign commerce, and to more effectively balance production and consumption of cotton.

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Sec. 3. (c) For the crop year 1934-1935 ten million bales is hereby fixed as the maximum amount of cotton of the crop harvested in the crop year 1934-1935, that may be marketed exempt from payment of the tax herein levied. Except as provided in section 2, the allotment plan and the tax is hereby declared to be in effect for the crop year 1934-1935.

Tax and Exemptions

Sec. 4. (a) There is hereby levied and assessed on the ginning of cotton hereafter harvested during a crop year

with respect to which this Act is in effect, a tax at the rate per pound of the lint cotton produced from ginning, of 50 per centum of the average central market price per pound of lint cotton, but in no event less than 5 cents per pound. If the cotton was harvested during a crop year with respect to which the tax is in effect, the tax shall apply even if the ginning occurs after the expiration of such crop year.

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(e) No tax shall be imposed under this Act with respect to—

(1) Cotton harvested by any publicly owned experimental station or agricultural laboratory.

(2) An amount of cotton harvested in any crop year from each farm equal to its allotment.

(3) Cotton harvested prior to the crop year 1934-1935.

(4) Cotton having a staple of one and one half inches in length or longer.

(f) The tax shall not be collected upon the ginning of cotton which is to be stored by the producer thereof either on the farm or at such other place as may be permitted by regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Treasury. In such cases, the payment of the tax shall be postponed, but shall be paid at the time when bale tags are secured for such cotton. Bale tags may be secured for any of such cotton at any time after ginning (1) upon the payment to such persons as the Commissioner may direct, of the amount of tax which would have been payable at the time of ginning, or (2) upon the surrender of certificates of exemption covering an amount of cotton not less than the amount of such cotton. Until bale tags are secured for such cotton, such cotton shall be subject to a lien in favor of the United States for the amount of the tax payable with respect to the ginning of such cotton. The right to postponement of the payment of the tax under this subsection shall be established in accordance with such regulations as the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe. The Commissioner,

with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, shall prescribe regulations providing for stamping the containers of such cotton so as to indicate the time of ginning and the amount of tax payable with respect thereto.

(g) The right to exemption under paragraph (2) of subsection (e) shall be evidenced by a certificate of exemption issued as herein provided, which certificate of exemption shall be conclusive proof of the right to such exemption.

Apportionment

Sec. 5. (a) When an allotment is made, in order to prevent unfair competition and unfair trade practices in marketing cotton in the channels of interstate and foreign commerce, the Secretary of Agriculture shall apportion to the several cotton-producing States the number of bales the marketing of which may be exempt from the tax herein levied, * * *

(b) The amount allotted to each State (less the amounts allotted under section 8) shall be apportioned by the Secretary of Agriculture to the several counties in such State * * *

Sec. 7. (a) The amount of cotton allotted to any county pursuant to section 5(b) shall be apportioned by the Secretary of Agriculture to farms on which cotton has been grown within such county.

Exemption Certificates

Sec. 9. (a) Exemption certificates shall be issued by the Secretary of Agriculture, upon application therefor, but only upon proof satisfactory to the Secretary that the producer is entitled thereto pursuant to this Act and the regulations thereunder. Any certificate erroneously issued shall be void upon a demand in writing for its return made by the

Secretary of Agriculture to the person to whom such certificate was issued.

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(d) Any and all certificates of exemption may be transferred or assigned in whole or in part in such manner as the Secretary of Agriculture may prescribe and shall be issued with detachable coupons or in such other form or forms to be prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture as will facilitate such transfer or assignment. Any person who, in violation of the regulations made by the Secretary of Agriculture, (1) secures certificates of exemption or bale tags from another by sharp practices, or (2) speculates in certificates of exemption or bale tags, and any person securing certificates of exemption or bale tags from another person by fraud or coercion shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined not more than \$1,000 or sentenced to not more than one year's imprisonment, or both.

Identification of Tax-paid or Exempt Cotton

Sec. 10. (a) Upon the payment of the tax on any cotton, or the surrender of exemption certificates covering cotton, the collector receiving such payment or certificates shall deliver to the person so paying or surrendering an appropriate number of bale tags which shall be affixed to such cotton.

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Regulations by the Commissioner

Sec. 12. The Commissioner, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, shall prescribe (a) regulations with respect to the time and manner of applying for, issuing, affixing, and destroying bale tags, and the method of accounting for receipts from the sale of and for the use of such bale tags, and (b) such other regulations as he shall deem necessary for the enforcement of the taxing provisions of this Act.

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General and Penal Provisions

Sec. 14. (a) All provisions of law, including penalties, applicable with respect to the taxes imposed by section 800 of the Revenue Act of 1926, shall, insofar as applicable and not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, be applicable with respect to taxes imposed by this Act.

(b) Except as may be permitted by regulations prescribed by the Commissioner, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, with due regard for the protection of the revenue, no person shall: (1) Transport, except for storing or warehousing, under the provisions of section 4(f) beyond the boundaries of the county where produced any lint cotton to which a bale tag issued under this Act is not attached; or (2) sell, purchase, or open any bale of lint cotton to which a bale tag issued under this Act is not attached.

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(d) Any person who willfully violates any provision of this Act, or who willfully fails to pay, when due, any tax imposed under this Act, or who, with intent to defraud, falsely makes, forges, alters, or counterfeits any bale tag or certificate of exemption made or used under this Act, or who uses, sells, or has in his possession any such forged, altered, or counterfeited bale tag or certificate of exemption, or any plate or die used, or which may be used in the manufacture thereof, or has in his possession any bale tag which should have been destroyed as required by this Act, or who makes, uses, sells, or has in his possession any paper in imitation of the paper used in the manufacture of any such bale tag or certificate of exemption, or who reuses any bale tag required to be destroyed by this Act, or who places any cotton in any bale which has been filled and stamped, tagged, or otherwise identified under this Act, without destroying the bale tag previously affixed to such bale, or who affixes any bale tag issued under this Act to any bale of lint cotton on which any tax due is unpaid, or who makes any false statement in any application for bale tags or certificates of exemption under this Act, or who

has in his possession any such bale tags or certificates of exemption obtained by him otherwise than as provided in this Act, shall on conviction be punished by a fine not exceeding \$1,000, or by imprisonment for not exceeding 6 months, or both.

(e) Any person who willfully violates any regulation issued by the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Treasury under this Act, for the violation of which a special penalty is not provided, shall, on conviction thereof, be punished by a fine not exceeding \$200.

Regulations by the Secretary of Agriculture

Sec. 15. (a) The Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to make such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the powers vested in him by the provisions of this Act.

(b) The Secretary of Agriculture may make regulations protecting the interests of share-croppers and tenants in the making of allotments and the issuance of tax-exemption certificates under this Act.

Appropriations Authorized

Sec. 16. (a) There is hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

(b) Out of the sums available to the Secretary of Agriculture under the Agricultural Adjustment Act, such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act are authorized to be made available.

(c) The proceeds derived from the tax are hereby authorized to be appropriated to be made available to the Secretary of Agriculture for the purposes of carrying out the cotton program of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, and for administrative expenses and refunds of taxes under this Act.

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Collection of Taxes

Sec. 19. The taxes provided for by this Act shall be collected by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury. Taxes collected shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States.

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Judicial Code, Section 145. (28 U. S. C. Sec. 250.)

The Court of Claims shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine the following matters:

(1) *Claims against United States.* First. All claims (except for pensions) founded upon the Constitution of the United States or any law of Congress, upon any regulation of an executive department, upon any contract, express or implied, with the Government of the United States, or for damages, liquidated or unliquidated, in cases not sounding in tort, in respect of which claims the party would be entitled to redress against the United States either in a court of law, equity, or admiralty if the United States were suable: * * *. (Mar. 3, 1887, c. 359, Sec. 1, 24 Stat. 505; Mar. 3, 1911, c. 231, Sec. 145, 36 Stat. 1136.)

Judicial Code, Section 151. (28 U. S. C. Sec. 257.)

Reference of claims by Congress. Whenever any bill, except for a pension, is pending in either House of Congress providing for the payment of a claim against the United States, legal or equitable, or for a grant, gift, or bounty to any person, the House in which such bill is pending may, for the investigation and determination of facts, refer the same to the Court of Claims, which shall proceed with the same in accordance with such rules as it may adopt and report to such House the facts in the case and the amount, where the same can be liquidated, including any facts bearing upon the question whether there has been delay or laches in presenting such claim or applying for such grant,

gift, or bounty, and any facts bearing upon the question whether the bar of any statute of limitation should be removed or which shall be claimed to excuse the claimant for not having resorted to any established legal remedy, together with such conclusions as shall be sufficient to inform Congress of the nature and character of the demand, either as a claim, legal or equitable, or as a gratuity against the United States, and the amount, if any, legally or equitably due from the United States to the claimant. If it shall appear to the satisfaction of the court upon the facts established, that under existing laws or the provisions of this chapter, the subject matter of the bill is such that it has jurisdiction to render judgment or decree thereon, it shall proceed to do so, giving to either party such further opportunity for hearing as in its judgment justice shall require, and it shall report its proceedings therein to the House of Congress by which the same was referred to said court. (Mar. 3, 1887, c. 359, Sec. 14, 24 Stat. 507; June 25, 1910, c. 409, 36 Stat. 837; Mar. 3, 1911, c. 231, Sec. 151, 36 Stat. 1138.)